

STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT, WAR DEPARTMENT**Washington, D. C.****21 August 1946****Country: Austria****Subject: Russian Battle Order in Austria**

1. The following is reported to be the strength of the Russian occupation forces in Austria as of 1 April 1946:

a. Twelve infantry divisions, nine of which compose the 5th Guards Army, while the remaining three divisions are part of the 4th Guards Army and are stationed in the Neunkirchen-Wiener Neustadt area. (Washington Comment: [redacted])

b. Five armored corps, three of which (6th, 7th, 9th) belong to the 3rd Guards Tank Army and are located north of the Danube, while two belong to the 4th Guards Tank Army and are stationed in Burgenland.

c. Two artillery divisions, under the 7th Guards Artillery Corps. Command Post: Sopron, Hungary.

2. Convoys began passing through Czechoslovakia at the end of May 1946 and consisted of two movements via highways and roads for ten days and one movement was via railway at regular cadence for one month. The whole movement amounted to 20,000 trucks and 250 trains. The three movements ended in Saxony, in the vicinity of Dresden and Bautzen.

3. The important units which have left for Germany appear to be as follows:

a. 3rd Armored Corps of the 3rd Guards Tank Army.

SECRET**CONTROL
U.S. OFFICIALS
ONLY**

STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT, WAR DEPARTMENT

-2-

- b. Six divisions, probably belonging to the 5th Guards Army.
- c. Four or five units which seemed to be armored brigades, possibly coming from Hungary.
- 4. A fourth movement, of much less importance, from Bratislava through the Moravian Gate, seems reserved for demobilized personnel belonging to large units stationed in Hungary.
- 5. During May, convoys leaving from the southeastern part of Austria appeared to result in a regrouping in Hungary of units from the 4th Guards Army and the 4th Tank Army.

25X1

6. After these movements, units left in Austria include the following:

- a. 3rd Infantry Division of the 5th Guards Army, which might belong to 54th Army Corps stationed in the western part of the Russian zone.

From an unverified report, the 54th Army Corps was reattached to the 4th Guards Army in Hungary. In this case it seems possible that the army corps was sent to Hungary to rejoin the rest of the army, which would correspond to the movements observed early in June from Austria to Hungary.

b. 4th Infantry Division

- 7. It is not known whether the General Staff of the 5th Guards Army has remained in Austria to command troops in the country, or whether it has moved to Germany.
- 8. The total strength of forces now in Austria can be estimated at seven infantry divisions, plus one or two artillery divisions.
- 9. These units were reinforced by troops which landed in Constanza at the beginning of May and arrived in Austria one month later. Information on their size and nature is lacking. They are reported to include approximately five divisions.

SECRET

CONTROL
U.S. OFFICIALS
ONLY